



President's Report

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: May 19, 2026
(Cape May County Campus)



Featured Stories

South Jersey Higher Education Alliance Signing Ceremony

- Atlantic Cape, along with Stockton University, Brookdale, Camden, and Ocean County Colleges, came together on May 18 to sign a partnership agreement titled “*The South Jersey Higher Education Alliance,*” at Stockton’s Galloway main campus. This collaboration aims to improve student access, transfer, and degree completion in Southern New Jersey by reducing barriers, expanding transfer agreements, and enhancing advising and support services. The Alliance's goal is to help students save time and money while achieving better educational and career outcomes.

Employee Appreciation Day

- Atlantic Cape's Human Resources department hosted *Employee Appreciation Day* on May 15. Employees from all three campuses, along with retired staff and faculty members, gathered at the Mays Landing Campus for a recognition ceremony. The event honored retiring faculty and staff; and celebrated employee milestones for their years of service at the College. This event included a barbecue, games, music, and more festivities.

Leadership Spotlights

- **Dr. Natalie Devonish, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management**, was honored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., on May 9 for her commitment to community service. She received this recognition for her

extensive work with middle school students, particularly in the areas of leadership development, community service, and preparation for higher education.

- **Jean McAlister, Chief of Staff and Chief Advancement Officer**, was awarded the *Spirit Award for Hospitality* by the Visit Atlantic City at their annual Host Awards on May 12. She was recognized for her more than 40 years of service in the hospitality industry and at Atlantic Cape.



- Atlantic Cape Community College hosted its *Graduation Fair* on April 30, providing graduates with a celebratory and resource-filled event in preparation for the commencement ceremony. Students had the opportunity to take free graduation portraits, decorate their caps and gowns, and access transfer assistance and career services to support their next steps after graduation. The event also featured live music, prizes, and giveaways, creating an engaging and festive atmosphere. It concluded with the annual graduation toast led by the Student Government Association (SGA), bringing the campus community together to honor and celebrate the achievements of the graduating class.
- The Center for Student Success (CSS) hosted the *Graduate Awards Ceremony* on May 1 at the Mays Landing Campus Theater. This special event celebrated the achievements of graduating students supported by the CSS (the Education Opportunity Fund (EOF), Student Support Services (SSS), New Jersey STARS (NJSTARS), and the Center for Accessibility). Students were recognized for their academic excellence, dedication, and accomplishments. Family, friends, faculty, and staff gathered to honor this significant milestone and to celebrate the continued success of our graduates.
- The Radio Club sponsored the *End of Semester Concert on the Quad* on May 5, featuring the live band Det Cart. The Pride Club, Black Student Alliance, Los

Latinos, and Asian Cultural Clubs co-sponsored refreshments, food, and giveaways, contributing to a highly engaging and well-attended campus event.

- Atlantic Cape's Men of Atlantic Cape (MAC) celebrated the academic and personal achievements of five student members and one mentor during its *Annual Jacket Presentation Ceremony* on May 6 at the Mays Landing campus. Congratulations to students **Jaymin Lucas, Vincent Casequin, Michael Heston, Andre Chapman-Ames, Jr., Haleym Vaughn**, along with mentor **Bryant Edmondson**.
- The Student Government hosted its *Annual Club Recognition Program* on May 7, honoring student organizations and leaders through awards and special recognitions, including Above and Beyond, Student Spotlight, Hall of Fame, Beacon of Light, and Earth Day Winner. The program also included a special tribute recognizing Dr. Gaba in honor of her retirement.
- Atlantic Cape was a sponsor of the MBCA's *Annual Scholarship Luncheon* on May 7, whose mission is to support graduating high school seniors who are the future of Atlantic City and Atlantic County with their educational goals. **Jeet Parekh** from Atlantic City High School will be joining Atlantic Cape in the Fall and he plans on pursuing a degree in Cybersecurity.
- The Athletics Department held its annual Athletics Banquet at Harbor Pines Golf Club on May 8. With over 150 guests in attendance, the event celebrated the achievements, dedication, and success of our student-athletes, coaches, and athletic staff throughout the year. The evening included recognition awards, special acknowledgments, and moments that highlighted both individual and team accomplishments. It was a meaningful opportunity to reflect on a strong season and honor the hard work and commitment demonstrated across all programs.



Inlet Community Development Corporation (CDC)

- The Inlet Community Development Corporation (CDC) recently hosted its biannual homebuyer class at Weichert Realty Asbury Group. This session covered essential topics, including credit repair, title insurance, the differences between buying and renting, and available homebuyer grants. Attendees enjoyed a complimentary lunch and had the chance to participate in guided house tours. The event offered valuable guidance and resources to help prospective homeowners make informed financial and housing decisions.

Community Outreach – Atlantic County

- Atlantic Cape collaborated with the Oceanside Family Success Center to host a Mother's Day celebration at our Worthington Atlantic City Campus on May 2. The College supported the event by providing the venue and sponsoring brunch for the attendees. Additionally, a motivational speaker was featured to honor and uplift mothers for their dedication and contributions.
- The College's Community Outreach team set up an information table at the Hamilton Resource Fair and Carnival on May 9. They highlighted the various opportunities available at Atlantic Cape Community College. Families were able to connect with over 50 resource tables representing a wide range of community services and support, all while enjoying fun carnival games and activities.
- Atlantic Cape and the Inlet CDC supported the Boys and Girls Club during their "Let's Get Cookin'" fundraising event on May 13. This event featured a gourmet culinary competition, with all proceeds benefiting the Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City. Faculty members from Atlantic Cape's Academy of the Culinary Arts, along with the director, served as judges for the competition.

Community Outreach – Cape May

- The Cape May County Campus, in partnership with the Cape May County Chamber, Cooper University Health Care, and the Cape May County Women's Commission, hosted their bi-annual *Nonprofit Summit* on April 30. The event attracted over 70 organizations from Cape May that allowed local nonprofits

to network, share their resources with the community, and form partnerships with other organizations.

Cape May County bizHub

- The Cape May County bizHub continued its *Small Business Seminar Series* this month by hosting three HR seminars. These sessions covered important topics, including strategies for retaining employees and reducing turnover, the top ten employment laws that every business owner should know, and the principles of influential leadership.

Athletics

- Atlantic Cape Athletics Department collaborated with the *HERO Leadership Group* to host an event titled “When the Ball Stops: Redefining Success Beyond Sports” on April 24. The event featured motivational speaker Schwarzen Precil, who shared valuable insights about life beyond athletics, emphasizing themes such as identity, resilience, mental health, and personal growth. Attendees left the session equipped with useful tools and inspiration for achieving long-term success after their athletic careers.

Student Engagement

- The Student Government Association (SGA) in partnership with the Hunger Free Campus Food Grant, sponsored *Food 4 Finals Week* from May 12 to May 15. Breakfast and lunch were provided to students on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the week to support student success during final examinations.